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# The Proposed Land Bills

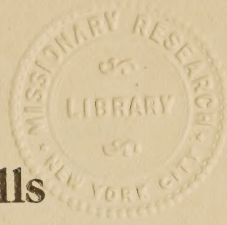
THE OTHER SIDE



PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY  
THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
SAN FRANCISCO, 1913







# The Proposed Land Bills

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**The Japanese Association of America**

San Francisco, 1913





Total acreage owned by the Japanese in 1912, according to the State Statistics of Labor, 12,726, or 20 square miles, the result of the Japanese labor within the last fifty years.

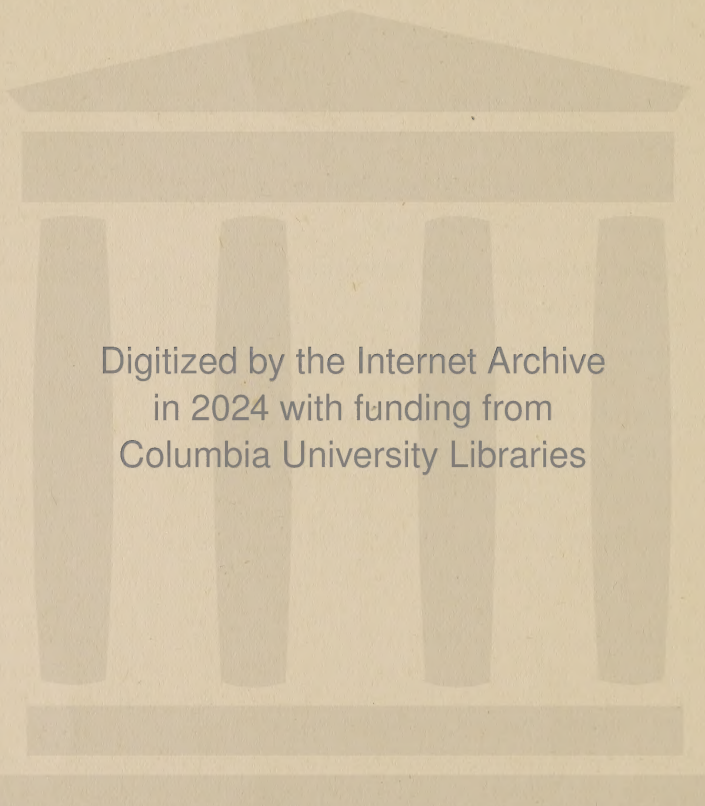
Total square miles of California, 158,360.

Total square miles owned by Japanese, 20.

It will take the Japanese, therefore, 395,900 years to own California.

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# The Proposed Land Bills

## THE OTHER SIDE

During the last half century or more the United States has sustained a peculiarly close relation to Japan, for she it was that opened the doors of the Island Empire, introduced her to Western civilization and Christian ideals, and taught her her first lessons of fairness, freedom and equality. She it was that first recognized Japan as a member among the civilized nations and proposed to treat her as such.

In view of these past pleasant experiences and the favorable sentiment of a large part of the American public relative to Japanese affairs, it is almost unthinkable that so many bills of discriminatory nature should be introduced at this session of the State Legislature.

### MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

Without doubt this is largely due to a misunderstanding of the condition of the Japanese in this State. To not a few examples, it has been said that the Japanese congregate themselves in one quarter and do not assimilate. And it has also been said, on the contrary, that the Japanese are unlike the Chinese in that they scatter everywhere. They mix with American people. They go to the public schools. They learn American methods, and are in sympathy with American institutions and ideals. In other words, they become assimilated. These two conflicting theories are working side by side in the support of the proposed measures in Sacramento. Again it is said that the Japanese can live on almost nothing and work very cheaply. On the other hand, we hear that the Japanese are a most extravagant people and demand enormous wages for their services. These two statements are diametrically opposed, but they have been used as the reasons for the Anti-Japanese legislation.

Some claim that the Japanese make money and send it home. Consequently, they are in no way helping American industry and business. At the same time another argument is advanced

that the Japanese make money, save it, and invest it in this country: hence certain people fear that they are going to buy up all the land.

If one argument is right the other is wrong, but all these conflicting theories and reasons are working side by side to create sentiment against the Japanese. Why? Because there is a great deal of misunderstanding on the part of the American people.

### MISREPRESENTATION.

The amount of land owned and leased by the Japanese in California is frequently greatly overstated. On page 633 of the latest, 1912, report of the State Bureau of Labor Statistics, we find that the total area of farm lands owned by Japanese is only 12,726 acres, cut up into 331 farms and assessed at \$478,990. On page 635, we get the town lots so held as 218 in number and assessed at a beggarly \$136,955. That is to say, there are 549 separate pieces of land, valued at \$615,945. In all the years that Japanese have been coming here—and the number is decreasing—they have not acquired much more than half a million dollars' worth of California land.

Two years ago the State Legislature appointed a special commission to investigate Japanese conditions in California. The report was so favorable to the Japanese that it was suppressed from publication. The recently published Report of the United States Immigration Commission is equally favorable, and is well worthy of a careful study before final action is taken.

### SMALL POLITICS.

The real purpose of the proposed anti-alien land bills is clearly revealed editorially in the *San Francisco Wasp*, as quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* of April 20th. (*San Francisco Wasp*): "The ostensible purpose of this alien land law is to prevent Japanese from holding land in California. The real purpose is to create a new agitation and thus galvanize a lot of discredited professional agitators and decayed politicians. The anti-Japanese agitation in California has been kept alive by the efforts of a combination of professional politicians, known as the Anti-Japanese and Korean Society, of which that delectable patriot, Olaf Tveitmoe, has been the nerve center."



These men have been in political life sufficiently long to recognize that the resident Japanese, without the ballot, is a convenient subject for world-wide notoriety in connection with small politics, and further that there would be little political harm to the agitator himself.

### BUSINESS INTERESTS OPPOSED.

Commercial interests are not advanced in this way, and far-sighted business men are opposing such legislation.

A recent United States Customs report shows that San Francisco's exports to Japan for 1912 were \$18,182,316 or 33 per cent of the total, and that her imports from Japan were \$25,844,698, or 41 per cent of the total.

At a conference of thirty-seven commercial organizations, covering the entire State, including Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade, Merchants Associations, etc., held in San Francisco February 20, 1913, action was taken opposing these land bills.

### SAN FRANCISCO REAL ESTATE BOARD.

The San Francisco Real Estate Board, representing a majority of the real property interests of the city of San Francisco, vigorously opposed one of the bills as follows:

"WHEREAS, There is now before the Legislature of the State of California Senate Bill No. 5, entitled, 'An Act Defining and Limiting the Right of Aliens and of Corporations a Majority of the Capital Stock of which Is Held or Owned by Aliens, to Acquire Title to, Own, Hold or Lease Real Property in the State of California Providing for What Period of Time Such Aliens and Corporations May Lease Real Property in the State of California, Providing for the Escheat of Property Held by Such Aliens and Corporations to the State of California, and Providing for Divesting Title to Real Property so Acquired, Owned or Held and the Payment of the Proceeds Thereof Into the State Treasury for the Benefit of the State School Fund, and Repealing Conflicting Acts,' and

"WHEREAS, Said bill provides that no alien shall acquire title to or own or hold real property within this State, or any interest therein, except under certain restricted conditions, and

"WHEREAS, Said Bill provides that any corporation, whether formed under the laws of this State or any other State or coun-

try, a majority of the capital stock of which shall be owned or held by any alien or aliens, shall hold the title to or any interest in real property for a period not exceeding one year, and

"WHEREAS, Said bill further provides that any contract, agreement or lease affecting the title to or any interest in real property, for a longer period of three years, shall be null and void, and providing further that no renewal of any such lease or contract shall be made after the termination of said term of three years, and

"WHEREAS, Said bill further provides that all aliens now owning the title to real property must dispose of the same within one year from the passage of the said act or forfeit the same to the State of California, and

"WHEREAS, There is now invested in this State vast sums of foreign capital in real estate used in connection with almost every industry, all of which investments will, if said bill becomes a law, be withdrawn from the State, thereby seriously affecting the development of our resources, and

"WHEREAS, It is the sense of the San Francisco Real Estate Board that every effort should be made by the people of the State of California to encourage the investment in this State of foreign capital,

*"Now therefore be it resolved* by the San Francisco Real Estate Board that this organization, representing a majority of the real property interests of the City of San Francisco, vigorously oppose the adoption of Senate Bill Number 5, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of the Legislature."

#### PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, held Wednesday, April 23, 1913, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, The State of California, at its urgent solicitation, was selected by the Congress of the United States, through the medium of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, to act in behalf of the Government as the host for the people of the United States, to all peoples, who may so desire, to join with the United States in celebrating the opening of the Panama Canal, by participating in the Universal Exposition of 1915, and



“WHEREAS, In pursuance of this Act of Congress, so passed at the urgent request of the State of California and its Legislature, the President of the United States invited all nations and all peoples, without regard to race, creed, political system or social development, to take part in the celebration of the opening of the great international highway, and

“WHEREAS, In accepting this trust at the hands of the people and Government of the United States and in special behalf of the State of California, the Exposition has been seriously requested, and has solemnly agreed, to provide every facility and to offer every encouragement that physical preparation can afford, or the broadest spirit of universal fellowship suggest, and has intended and still intends so to do, in a manner responsive to the invitation of the United States and to the sentiment of universal brotherhood that this celebration is intended to promote, and

“WHEREAS, Any action upon the part of the people of California, through its Legislature or otherwise, calculated to lessen the interest of all nations and peoples in the success of this celebration, will negative and nullify the implied and expressed covenants of the State of California.

*“Therefore, be it resolved,* By the Board of Directors of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition that any action on the part of the Legislature of California that shall be regarded by any foreign country or government as offensive to their pride as a people, or their honor as a nation, must and will challenge the good faith of the commonwealth of California.

*“Resolved,* That it is the deliberate and unqualified conviction of this Board that by accepting this great trust for the nation rendered of deep international dignity and import by the request of the American Government to all nations and all peoples, without exception, to share with our nation the gratification and pride all patriotic Americans feel in the tremendous gift of the Panama Canal to the world, with its immeasurable commercial and civilizing advantages, the State of California unquestionably pledged to all participants equal opportunity and courtesy and indiscriminating welcome and hospitality.

*“Resolved further,* That we, as a Board of Directors, deeply impressed with the responsibility we have assumed on behalf of the State of California, emphatically protest against the passage

of any measures in the Legislature of the State that are in anywise contrary to the spirit of the obligation incurred by the State at the time it assumed the responsibility conferred upon it by act of Congress.

*“Resolved further,* That the President of this Exposition be authorized and instructed to sign, and the Secretary of the company to place the seal of the corporation upon these resolutions, and to suitably engross and copy the same and transmit them to each House of the Legislature of the State of California with the request that they be printed in the Journal thereof, and to such other bodies or persons as, in the opinion of the President, it shall be deemed advisable to do, thereby confirming similar previous acts by this Board, and the representations of committees of this Board before the Legislature at Sacramento as well as official statements previously given to the press and public.”

#### DELTA ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA.

The president of the Delta Association of California strongly protested against all discriminatory and oppressive legislation directed toward the Chinese and Japanese, as follows:

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, April 24, 1913.

HON. WM. J. BRYAN,  
Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR:

Representing the owners of two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) acres of land in the Delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers, I have the honor to present their protest against the proposed alien land bills, and other and all legislation oppressive of the Japanese and Chinese.

In 1909, the California Legislature ordered a drastic investigation of the Japanese question in this State and appropriated ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to pay the cost thereof. This investigation covered freehold and leasehold lands, the estimation of Japanese by their neighbors, their value and need of them as farm laborers, their moral relations to society and the industrial, financial and social effect of their presence here. This exhaustive inquiry was ordered, in the language of the act au-



thorizing it, "to inform the Legislature and the President and Congress."

The investigation was made by the State Labor Commissioner, and the testimony taken by him, names of witnesses and all facts went into his report. The result was that this investigation so thoroughly disproved the ground upon which anti-Japanese legislation demanded by the legislators who promote it, that our State Government has suppressed the report and it has never been published! This is to be greatly regretted, because it deprives the President and Congress of essential facts, as the basis of judgment upon its issue that has no normal place in this State. The Federal Government might well order that report published.

When the legislation which you are here to consider, was proposed in such form that it struck all aliens and alien corporations and interests, and therefore was impartial, such scope of the measure was abandoned and members of Legislature declared that it would shut out foreign capital which is needed to develop the State. As the demands of capital were so speedily conceded, the rural interest of the State, whose lands produce necessities of life for domestic consumption and export, demand that the State and Federal Governments give equal heed to their needs.

The production of asparagus, onions, celery, raisins and sugar beets here, requires that its imperative primary processes be performed by Japanese and Chinese labor. It is work that requires a stooped or squat position, in a temperature exceeding 100 degrees, and the long legged and long backed white man will not perform it at any wage. The short legged and short backed Japanese and Chinese do it well, and so enable a production that gives work and wages to thousands of white men and women. The co-ordination of labor is necessary for the welfare and prosperity of the State.

The landowners do not want cheap labor. Japanese here are paid One Dollar and Sixty Cents (\$1.60) to Two Dollars (\$2.00) per day for ordinary farm labor, and in the raisin harvest they make Three Dollars (\$3.00) per day. This is the highest farm wage in the United States, but it pays a form of labor that is non-competitive and returns a good day's work for a good day's pay.

The foregoing is presented to you because the action now proposed in our Legislature will be only the prelude to further at-

tacks. The Legislature has already endorsed the Raker Bill, which was before the last Congress. That bill proposes to subject Government officers, ambassadors, etc., from Japan and China to humiliating identification; it forbids them the right to bring any member of their families over six years of age, and it provides that upon their recall by their government, they will be arrested on an administrative warrant and expelled from the country!

As the head of the State Department, you do not need to be informed that such a law would not only immediately terminate diplomatic intercourse with China and Japan, but all commercial intercourse also. Yet this Legislature has endorsed that bill!

The foregoing is submitted in behalf of the Delta landowners and other rural interests, and for the State Fruit Growers' Association, which in its annual convention has unanimously demanded the guarded admission of Eastern Asiatics, and the modification of the existing law.

Respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN P. IRISH,

*President of the Delta Land Association of California.*

#### FLORIN RESIDENTS.

In view of Florin, Sacramento County, having been frequently cited in debate as a reason for passing discriminatory laws, the following telegram to Hon. W. J. Bryan from leading residents in Florin will be of special interest as showing the prejudice attending such discussion:

SACRAMENTO, CAL., April 15, 1913.

HON. W. J. BRYAN, Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.:

In passing Assembly Bill to-day, Florin cited as reason for Alien Land Law. Facts according to pamphlet just issued by one of the signers of this dispatch, a resident of Florin and student of conditions for many years, a copy of which will be forwarded to you by mail, prove that present prosperity in Florin is due to Japanese industry. Many of the better class of landowners are not inimical to them and regret bill. Land owned by Japanese is largely too poor for the whites. Japanese industry makes it highly productive and profitable. Living standards are good and



growing better. They are not crowding out any whites but helping the community and State. Japanese are conceded by all fair minded residents here as peaceable, law abiding, moral, temperate, grateful and generous. Among so large a population of Japanese in some fourteen years, there has never been a white woman molested.

A. M. BROWN,  
Vineyardist, Florin.

L. M. LANDSBROUGH,  
Vineyardist, Florin.

J. P. BROWN,  
Vineyardist, Florin.

J. A. SIMONS,  
Vineyardist, Florin.

H. H. BUCKNER,  
Pastor of Florin M. E. Church.

JAS. TOOTEL,

President of Florin Fruit Growers' Association of Florin.

It is worthy of special note that a large portion of the broad-minded American citizens have no sympathy with agitation looking toward class legislation, as may be evidenced by the following:

#### PEACE COMMITTEE.

Copy of telegram to:—

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 24, 1913.

PRESIDENT WILSON,

SECRETARY BRYAN,

GOVERNOR JOHNSON,

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR WALLACE,

CALIFORNIA SENATE.

The Interdenominational Peace Committee of Pacific Coast Churches, representing many church bodies, are opposed to any race discrimination in the treatment of the proposed Alien Land Bills. Recent United States Customs reports indicate that during 1912 the exports from San Francisco to Japan represented thirty-three per cent of the total amount of trade, while direct imports from Japan to the United States represented forty-one per cent of the total. We feel also that the effect of such legis-

lation will be adverse to missionary work both in Japan and America. While we do not fear any declaration of war, we deprecate the development of a hostile spirit which would be detrimental to the prosperity and interests of both nations.

ROBERT DOLLAR, President.

WILLIAM C. ALLEN, Secretary.

### PREACHERS' MEETINGS.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 22, 1913.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR WALLACE,

and

THE STATE SENATE,

Sacramento, California.

The San Francisco Methodist Preachers' meeting, in special session to-day, urges that no action on the pending Anti-Alien Land legislation be taken which will discriminate against the people of any nation or nations.

Very respectfully,

C. E. IRONS, President.

FRANK I. WITKAMP, Secretary.

The Presbyterian ministers of San Francisco and Bay Cities also passed a strong resolution protesting against discrimination.

### STANDING COMMITTEE OF ORIENTAL WORKERS.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., April 25, 1913.

Copy of telegram to:—

SECRETARY BRYAN,

GOVERNOR JOHNSON,

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR WALLACE,

CALIFORNIA SENATE.

Recognizing the changing conditions throughout the East, desiring to establish such relationships as will promote international harmony and good will, and believing in the supreme value of Christian Missions among Orientals on both sides of the Pacific as a prime factor in promoting commercial prosperity, we, the Standing Committee of American Workers among Orientals, deprecate the passing of any discriminatory laws by



our State which will result in developing a hostile spirit, and hence most emphatically protest against any such legislation.

A. WESLEY MELL, President.

GEO. W. HINMAN, Vice-President.

MILTON S. VAIL, Secretary.

### SPECIAL REASONS ASSIGNED.

Dr. H. B. Johnson, a superintendent of Missions, who travels widely in the West, particularly in California, and who has special opportunities for observation, presented a communication to the Governor and the committees of the Senate and Assembly, giving nine reasons why the proposed bills should not pass. This was about the middle of March, before the question became acute. Among the reasons not already referred to are the following:

1. While there is no discrimination in name, there will be in fact. The proposed laws, if passed, will affect the people of one nation much more than the people of any other, i. e., the Japanese; and will be understood to be directed especially toward them.

2. Such legislation will be much more harmful in its effects than if passed by a previous Legislature, in view of (a) The prolonged discussion. (b) The high character and standing of the men now composing not only the dominant political party in California, but the entire Legislature. (c) The strict observance of the Gentlemen's Agreement between Japan and the United States, resulting not only in greatly reduced immigration, but in a net decrease of Japanese population, and in a higher standard for those who come. (d) The correction, through investigation, of the unfavorable impression concerning Japanese immigrants, as shown by the elaborate reports of the United States Immigration Commission, recently published, which agree with and emphasize the favorable report concerning the Japanese, prepared by the State Labor Commissioner.

3. The Japanese Government has been, and is, very liberal in dealing with foreign peoples, specially Americans, in Japan. (a) When there was no provision in law, the Japanese Government and people encouraged long term leases. (b) For several years, special provision has been made to protect the property

of foreigners in Japan. With these provisions the representatives of the various Mission Boards, and other interested parties, have been perfectly satisfied. I quote an official statement of the acting Consul-General of Japan at San Francisco:

"Foreigners, as individuals, might not own land in fee simple, but, when organized under the laws of Japan, as corporations, they had the same rights as native subjects to hold real estate. This was true whether the corporation was formed in whole or in part of foreigners, and it applied to all other classes of real property, including mines. While, however, the alien, as an individual, could not acquire title to land, he had rights of lease which practically carried all the privileges of ownership in fee simple."

(c) The Diet of Japan has since provided legislation including reciprocity not yet promulgated in dealing with the land question.

Article I of this law relating to foreigners' right of ownership in land, is as follows: "Foreigners domiciled or resident in Japan and foreign juridical persons registered therein shall enjoy the right of ownership in land, provided always that in the countries to which they belong such right is extended to Japanese subjects and Japanese juridical persons; and provided further, in case of foreign juridical persons, that they shall obtain permission of the Minister for Home Affairs in acquiring such ownership."

4. There would be a decided economic loss in such legislation, as shown by the Report of the Immigration Commission of the United States. It is again and again stated that in many communities much of the land leased by Japanese was reclaimed and reduced to cultivation by them, or was first devoted to intensive farming by them. "In such cases," says the report, "they have added to the wealth of the community, and their farming has not necessarily affected the white population adversely. Volume 23, page 86. Many such quotations might be furnished."

### THE CALIFORNIA PRESS.

No greater mistake has been made than to suppose that the press of California is anti-Japanese. The Los Angeles *Graphic* of April 12th says editorially: "There can be no marked objec-



tion by any foreign power to a State law that places all aliens upon precisely the same footing. It is when a discriminatory act is enforced that retaliation by a self-respecting nation is an inevitable sequence, and that will surely happen if the same type of prejudiced minds that gave us Chinese exclusion should succeed in enacting an anti-Japanese land measure to the infringement of the rights guaranteed under the federal international treaty. If Japan should be forced into such an attitude of reprisal and in a dignified way declare her inability to accept the invitation of this country to participate in the Panama-Pacific Exposition of 1915, it is not at all unlikely that her European allies would feel bound to resent with Japan this slight to one of the signatories."

In an editorial in the *Los Angeles Times* of April 20th we read: "The proposed law is neither wise, nor just, nor called for by any conditions now existing or likely to exist. It is shameful; it is iniquitous; it is a crime against civilization; its enactment would be a wicked and inexcusable blunder.

"We have tolerated if not invited Japanese to acquire and cultivate a trifling quantity of land, and engage in a limited amount of commercial and industrial pursuits in our midst. They are, as a rule, peaceful, industrious and law-abiding, though inferior to the Chinese in these qualities. They engage in no labor to the detriment of any American who is willing to work. The percentage of them to be found in our prisons and asylums is less than that of any European race. They do not detract from the wealth and prosperity of California. They add to it. There are no dynamiters, or I-Won't-Workers, or henroost robbers, or porch climbers, or highway robbers, or pick-pockets among them."

From the *San Francisco Argonaut* of April 12th: "The truth is that the bill now under consideration at Sacramento is designed purely for home consumption. It is intended for no other purpose than to coddle certain elements of opposition to the Japanese. That it will accomplish anything in the way of barring Japanese or others from the soil of California is not intended, probably not even desired. It is just a bit of cheap political buncombe, meaningless and ineffective in itself, useful only in that it may help somebody to get votes under pretense of being a Japanese baiter."

From the San Francisco *Chronicle* of April 13th: "Most of the freaks who are now advocating the alien bill a short time ago were vociferously applauding Roosevelt for threatening to send troops to San Francisco to compel the Board of Education of this city to permit adult Japanese to sit in the public schools of the city side by side with little white girls in tender years. It would be interesting to know what brought about their change of heart."

From the Fresno *Republican* of April 20th: "The Japanese part of California's problem, is an international matter and in all its international aspects it must, therefore, be settled by the national and not by the State government. The State's chief responsibility in this respect is to take no action on its small fraction of the problem which might embarrass the nation in its immensely larger responsibility to the situation. The maintenance of the present law barring Asiatics from citizenship; the scrutiny of the operation of the "gentlemen's agreement" to see that Japan carries out its promise effectively to prevent the migration of Japanese laborers to this country, and the holding of the reserve power of passing an exclusion law if it should be necessary—all these things are national concerns and are of incomparably more importance than the question whether the 12,000 acres of farm land now owned by Japanese in California and the perhaps 20,000 acres rented by them shall grow to 20,000 and 40,000 acres, respectively."

From the San Francisco *Post* of April 18th: "The weight of opinion seems to be that an alien land law of the kind proposed at Sacramento would be unconstitutional. The New York press is unanimous on that point, and Roger A. Pryor, a well-known New York lawyer, calls attention to Article VI of the Federal Constitution, which says: 'All treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.' Mr. Pryor adds: 'The bill California proposed to enact, even in its amended and mitigated form, involves a palpable breach of treaty engagements.' We do not quote Mr. Pryor as the ultimate authority, but give his opinion merely as a sample of the judgment of many others."



"President David Starr Jordan of Stanford University has given the subject much special study and has formulated these four propositions:

"1. Such bills as the propositions made in each current California Legislature to restrict land ownership by aliens are unconstitutional if directed against aliens of any particular nationality.

"2. They are invalid if in contravention with any existing treaty, this and the preceding being matters to be finally determined in the Federal courts.

"3. They are not valid if attacking the present legal right of ownership.

"4. They would, if directed against all alien ownership, have sweeping effect, not yet estimated.

"Dr. Jordan believes that a statute applying to aliens of any nationality, however disguised in phraseology, would rest on the impossible doctrine that a State may have relations with a foreign nation different from the relations with the country of the United States as a whole.

"The *Post* appreciates the serious objections that exist to increasing land ownership by Japanese in California, but it is futile to try to solve the problem by methods that in all probability will prove ineffective."

From the *California Christian Advocate* of April 24th: "Politically the United States must treat the immigrants from all nations on an equality basis. Trade and international Christian fellowship demand a policy of equal treatment. The social and economic problems, important as they are, and we take them at their full value, must be held to the standard of equality before the law. We think the time has fully come when an international policy of friendship and justice must be dominant. The Legislature is working on a bill to prohibit aliens from owning land in this State. There is a good deal of popular sentiment in its favor. While it is phrased in general terms, it is aimed specially at the Chinese and Japanese, because they cannot become naturalized. If there is reason to limit the colonization of Chinese and Japanese, there is also reason to limit European immigrants also. But whatever the emergencies, the principle

of equality must prevail. The whole question of immigration should be dealt with diplomatically. Japan has faithfully respected the wishes of the United States in reducing the number of Japanese coming into this country. That policy strictly enforced would measurably take care of the trouble arising from Japanese colonization. It is safe to say that any legislation which is not in accord with the international treaty will produce friction. There are Italian colonists, but sooner or later they are Americanized and become good citizens. The Orient is opening a new era in trade and in national life throughout the whole world. Any violent legislation against the Orient would be unfortunate and in the end have to be reversed."

From the *Pasadena News* of April 14th: "What a pother over nothing in this anti-alien land bill, which the self-harried legislators at Sacramento are agitating to the wasting of much good time. Supposing the Japanese, the Chinese, or the Hindoos do own a few acres of ground in the State, or desirable corner lots, what of it? Of all the silly, useless pieces of legislation this anti-alien bill is the most bigoted, the most asinine. Are we so afraid of the Japs and the Chinese that we expect them to move over here en masse and capture all our choice holdings? Let them come if they have the price. Their money is as good as that of the European investor. We venture to say that the men foremost in seeking enactment of an anti-alien land bill are of foreign birth. This country should be free to all, irrespective of nationality. Two generations from now even the Japanese will be good American citizens if we give them as fair a show as is accorded other alien races."

#### ADJUSTMENT SUGGESTED.

In a cable dispatch from Tokio April 19th, the following reference is made to Dr. John R. Mott, Secretary of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association: "It is understood that President Wilson, who thinks so highly of Mr. Mott that he offered him the ambassadorship to China, sought a first-handed report on the situation, and that Mr. Mott cabled that the only solution is to grant citizenship rights to the Japanese in America, with the understanding that the Tokio government shall continue to restrict immigration of its subjects to the United States."







